

DETAILED ACTION

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Laurence A. Greenberg on March 12-2008.

There was a typo error in the previous examiners' amendment, claim 24 should be unamended as it was originally presented as set forth below:

24. Method of generating a downmix signal from a multi-channel original signal, the downmix signal having a number of channels being smaller than a number of original channels, comprising: calculating a first downmix channel and a second downmix channel using a downmix rule; calculating parametric level information representing an energy distribution among the channels in the multi-channel original signal; determining a coherence measure between two original channels, the two original channels being located at one side of an assumed listener position; and forming an output signal using the first and the second downmix channels, the parametric level information and only at least one coherence measure between two original channels located at the one side or a value derived from the at least one coherence measure, but not using any coherence measure between channels located at different sides of the assumed listener position.

Claims 25 and 26 should be amended as shown below:

Claim 25. [Computer program having a program code]A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing a method of constructing a multi-channel output signal using an input

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signal and parametric side information, the input signal including a first input channel and a second input channel derived from an original multi-channel signal, the original multi-channel signal having a plurality of channels, the plurality of channels including at least two original channels, which are defined as being located at one side of an assumed listener position, wherein a first original channel is a first one of the at least two original channels, and wherein a second original channel is a second one of the at least two original channels, and the parametric side information describing interrelations between original channels of the multi-channel original signal, comprising: determining a first base channel by selecting one of the first and the second input channels or a combination of the first and the second input channels, and determining a second base channel by selecting the other of the first and the second input channels or a different combination of the first and the second input channels, such that the second base channel is different from the first base channel; and synthesizing a first output channel using the parametric side information and the first base channel to obtain a first synthesized output channel which is a reproduced version of the first original channel which is located at the one side of the assumed listener position, and synthesizing a second output channel using the parametric side information and the second base channel, the second output channel being a reproduced version of the second original channel which is located at the same side of the assumed listener position.

Claim 26. [Computer program having a program code] A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing a method of generating a downmix signal from a multi-channel original signal, the downmix signal having a number of channels being smaller than a number of original channels,

comprising: calculating a first downmix channel and a second downmix channel using a downmix rule; calculating parametric level information representing an energy distribution among the channels in the multi-channel original signal; determining a coherence measure between two original channels, the two original channels being located at one side of an assumed listener position; and forming an output signal using the first and the second downmix channels, the parametric level information and only at least one coherence measure between two original channels located at the one side or a value derived from the at least one coherence measure, but not using any coherence measure between channels located at different sides of the assumed listener position.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DISLER PAUL whose telephone number is (571)270-1187. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chin Vivian can be reached on 571-272-7848. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/D. P./

Examiner, Art Unit 2615

/Vivian Chin/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2615